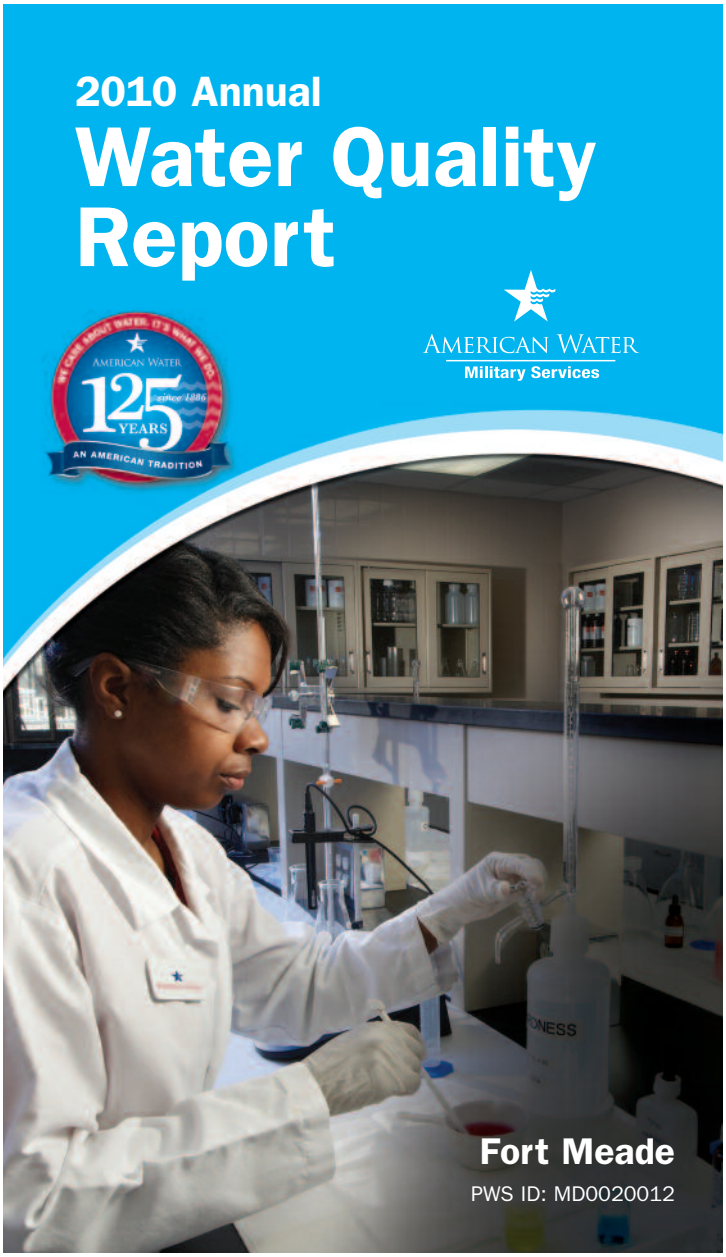

This report contains important information about your drinking water. If you do not understand it, please have someone translate it for you.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Continuing our Commitment

A Message from Military Services Group Vice President

American Water – Military Services Group owns and operates water and wastewater utilities under the Utilities Privatization program and we proudly provide water and wastewater services to ten military communities around the country, including yours. Our lives revolve around water. It's in everything we do, everything we use. That's why it's important that we share with our customers, information about our commitment to providing high-quality water service.

I am pleased to provide you with the 2010 Annual Water Quality Report with detailed information about the source and quality of your drinking water. We have prepared this report using the data from water quality testing conducted for your local water system from January through December 2010. You'll find that we supply water that surpasses or meets all federal and state water quality regulations.

Just as important, we place a strong focus on acting as stewards of our environment. In all of the communities we serve, we work closely with the local Directorate of Public Works, Civilian Engineering Departments, local Environmental Departments and State regulatory agencies to protect environmental quality, educate customers on how to use water wisely and to ensure the high-quality of your drinking water everyday.

American Water has been an American Tradition since 1886. As we celebrate 125 years of service, we reflect on what makes our company strong and reliable... an American Tradition. It is our people and their connection to each other, our customers, the environment, and the most precious element on earth – water.

At American Water, we deliver more than just water. We deliver a key resource for public health, fire protection, the economy and the overall quality of life we enjoy. For more information or for additional copies of this report, visit us online at www.amwater.com.

Sincerely,

James Sheridan
Vice President of Military Services Group

Special Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or by calling our Customer Service Center at (800) 685-8660.

Water Information Sources

On August 1, 2010, ownership of the Fort Meade water system was formally conveyed to American Water under the Utilities Privatization program. Although being reported by American Water, this report consists of water quality information collected and submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment by U.S. Government and American Water staff during the 2010 calendar year in accordance with the "Consumer Confidence (CCR) Rule" of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). As the owner of the Fort Meade water system, American Water will collect all applicable water quality samples required to complete the 2010 and future water quality reports.

Fort Meade American Water O&M, Military Services Group provides water service to approximately 60,000 customers at the Fort Meade Military Post located in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Fort Meade AW O&M is part of American Water. Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest investor-owned U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to approximately 15 million people in more than 30 states, as well as parts of Canada. More information can be found by visiting www.amwater.com.

In 2011, American Water is celebrating its 125th anniversary with a yearlong campaign to promote water efficiency and the importance of protecting water from source to tap. To learn more, visit www.amwater125.com.

The web sites of US EPA Office of Water, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation and public health. You may visit these sites as well as American Water's website at the following addresses:

United States Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.gov/safewater

Maryland Department of the Environment
www.mde.maryland.gov

American Water
www.amwater.com

American Water Works Association
www.awwa.org

Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791

What is a Water Quality Report?

To comply with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, American Water issues a report annually describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to provide you an overview of last year's (2010) drinking water quality. It includes details about where your water comes from and what it contains.

We also use this report to share with you information about the water system. During the 2010 calendar year the second Synthetic Organic Carbon sample for the Ft Meade Water Treatment Plant was collected in the fourth quarter of 2010, not the third quarter as requested by MDE. In addition, chlordane was omitted from the initial report. Chlordane was not detected in the sample taken on June 8, 2010. All future samples will be taken and analyzed within the required time frame.

Samples for nitrate, fluoride, metals (Phase II/V) and arsenic were collected and analyzed within the proper time period. Final reports were sent to MDE prior to the deadline however, the reports can not be located. A second set was sent to MDE on February 1, 2011 which is outside of the prescribed time period. All sample analyses results were within drinking water standards. All future reports will be submitted on time with receipt documentation.

We hope the report will raise your understanding of drinking water issues and awareness of the need to protect your drinking water sources. For more information, please contact John Dailey at 410-980-2962.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The source of water supply for Fort Meade consists of (6) groundwater wells located on Ft Meade. The wells pump water from the Patuxent Aquifer.

How is Your Water Treated?

Your water is treated to remove contaminants and a disinfectant is added to protect you against microbial contaminants. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes water in order to identify potential contamination sources. The state has completed an assessment of our source water. For results of the assessment, please contact us at 419-980-2962 to request a copy.

Share This Report

You are encouraged to share this important information with water users who are not customers of Fort Meade American Water and therefore do not receive this report directly.

Water Conservation Tips

Conservation measures you can use inside your home include:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

You can conserve outdoors as well:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.

Substances Expected to be in Drinking Water

To ensure that tap water is of high quality, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain substances in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system tested a minimum of 60 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The Fort Meade water treatment processes are designed to reduce any such substances to levels well below any health concern.

The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Information About Lead

Is there lead in my water?
Although we regularly test lead levels in your drinking water, it is possible that lead and/or copper levels at your home are higher because of materials used in your plumbing. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Fort Meade American Water is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead and copper exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

How to Read the Data Tables

American Water conducts extensive monitoring to ensure that your water meets all water quality standards. The results of our monitoring are reported in the following tables. While monitoring was conducted in 2010, MDE requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. For help with interpreting this table, see the "Table Definitions" section.

Starting with a **Substance**, read across. **Year Sampled** is usually in 2010 or year prior. **MCL** shows the highest level of substance (contaminant) allowed. **MCLG** is the goal level for that substance (this may be lower than what is allowed). **Average Amount Detected** represents the measured amount (less is better). **Range** tells the highest and lowest amounts measured. A **Yes** under **Compliance Achieved** means the amount of the substance met government requirements. **Typical Source** tells where the substance usually originates.

Unregulated substances are measured, but maximum allowed contaminant levels have not been established by the government.

Table Definitions and Abbreviations

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of disinfectant routinely allowed in drinking water. Addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

mrem/year (millirems per year): a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

MFL (Million Fibers per Liter): a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration of radioactive contaminants in water (also beta particles).

pH: A measurement of acidity, 7.0 being neutral.

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter.

ppt (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water, or nanograms per liter.

RAA (Running Annual Average): average results for the most recent four quarters.

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Water Quality Statement

The staff and management of the Fort Meade American Water O&M water utility are pleased to report that the water provided to you during the past year met all the State and Federal standards set for drinking water. The 1996 amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act require that Fort Meade deliver a brief annual water quality report to all customers. Fort Meade treats water from 6 ground water wells and provides safe drinking water to your residence through the Ft. Meade distribution system which includes pump stations, elevated ground storage tanks, and water lines.

Regulated Parameters							
Substance (units)	**Year Sampled**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Average Amount Detected**	**Range**	**Compliance Achieved**	**Typical Source**
Inorganic Compounds							
Arsenic (ppm)	2010	10	0	< 0.002	0.002	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2010	2	2	0.0069	0.005	Yes	Discharge of drilling waters; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (ppm)	2010	4	4	< 0.0005	0.0005	Yes	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppm)	2010	5	5	< 0.0005	0.0005	Yes	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Metal refineries discharge; Waste batteries and paint runoff
Chromium (ppm)	2010	100	100	< 0.002	0.002	Yes	Discharge from steel and pulp mills
Fluoride (ppm)	2010	4	4	1.3	1.3	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Mercury (ppm)	2010	2	2	< 0.0005	0.0005	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills and cropland
Nickel (ppm)	2010	100	100	0.0073	0.073	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from factories
Nitrate (ppm)	2010	10	10	< 1.0	1.0	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppm)	2010	50	50	< 0.005	0.005	Yes	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Thallium (ppm)	2010	2	0.5	< 0.002	0.002	Yes	Leaching from ore processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass and drug factories
Radiological Contaminants							
Combined Radium 226-228 (pCi/L)	2008	5	0	1.0	NA	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2008	15	0	7.0	NA	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Synthetic Organic Chemicals							
Atrazine (ppb)	2010	3	3	ND	ND	Yes	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Alachlor (ppb)	2010	2	0	ND	ND	Yes	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Disinfectant By-products							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	2010	60	NA	RAA 1.4	< 1.0 - 2.1	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	2010	80	NA	RAA 1.7	< 0.5 - 4.6	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	2010	MRDL 4	MRDLG = 4	RAA 1.4	0.3 - 1.9	Yes	Disinfectant water additive used to control microbes
Chloroform	2010	NA	NA	0.69	0 - 0.69	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Microbiological Contaminants							
Substance (units)	**Year Sampled**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Tested Positive**	**Compliance Achieved**		**Typical Source**
Coliform, Total (TCR)	2010	No more than 3 positive monthly samples	0	0	Yes		Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper								
Substance (units)	**Year Sampled**	**AL**	**MCLG**	**Range**	**90th Percentile**	**Sites Above AL**	**Compliance Achieved**	**Typical Source**
Lead (ppb)	2008	15	0	2 - 203	2	1	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper (ppm)	2008	1.3	0	0.01 - 3.1	0.07	1	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing

Secondary Contaminants				
Substance (units)	**Year Sampled**	**Highest Value**	**Range**	**SMCL**
Alkalinity, Total (ppm)	2010	28	20 - 28	300
Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	2010	58	51 - 62	1500
Hardness, Total (as CaCO3, ppm)	2010	23	23 - 24	400
Iron (ppm)	2010	0.08	0.03 - 0.08	.3
pH (std unit)	2010	8.3	7.9 - 8.3	8.5
Phosphorus, Total (ppm)	2010	1.2	1.0 - 1.2	5
Sodium (ppm)	2010	1.3	1.3	100
Sulfate (ppm)	2007	6.9	6.9	250
Zinc (ppm)	2010	0.23	0.17 - 0.23	5